AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Prior to the present communication, claims 1-2, 6-12, 15-17, 20, 24 and 27 were pending in the subject application. Each of claims 1, 12, 17, and 20 has been amended herein, claims 6, 7, 11, 15, 16, 24, and 27 have been canceled, and claims 30-32 have been added. Thus, claims 1, 2, 8-10, 12, 17, 20, and 30-32 remain pending. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for testing fecal samples from persons for diagnosis, the method comprising:

obtaining a fecal sample from a person presenting with symptoms common to inflammatory bowel disease and irritable bowel syndrome;

diluting the sample;

determining that the sample contains an elevated level of lactoferrin;

measuring the sample for an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies (ASCA);

measuring the sample for an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA);

upon determining that the sample contains an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies and not an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies, diagnosing the person with Crohn's disease; and

upon determining that the sample contains an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies and not an elevated level of anti-

Saccharomyces cerevisiae antibodies, diagnosing the person with ulcerative colitis.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a diagnosis of inflammatory bowel disease may be concluded based upon the sample containing an elevated level of lactoferrin.

3-7. (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the lactoferrin, anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies and anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies are measured using one of enzyme-linked immunoassays, lateral flow membrane tests and immunoassays utilizing antibodies.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining that the sample contains an elevated level of lactoferrin is based on a qualitative ELISA.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein determining that the sample contains an elevated level of lactoferrin is based on a quantitative measurement.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[11]], further comprising:

contacting the ~~diluted~~ sample with immobilized polyclonal antibodies to endogenous lactoferrin to create a treated sample;

contacting said treated sample with enzyme-linked polyclonal antibodies such that the enzyme-linked polyclonal antibodies are allowed to bind to captured endogenous lactoferrin creating an enzyme-linked antibody bound sample;

adding a substrate to the enzyme-linked antibody bound sample to create a readable sample; and

determining the optical density of said readable sample at 450 nm.

13-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[11]], further comprising:

contacting the sample with antigens of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* to create a treated sample;

contacting the treated sample with polyvalent antibodies to human immunoglobulin conjugated to an enzyme such that the polyvalent antibodies are allowed to bind to capture anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies creating an enzyme-linked antibody bound sample;

adding a substrate to the enzyme-linked antibody bound sample to create a readable sample; and

determining the optical density of the readable sample.

18-19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[11]], further comprising:

contacting the sample with neutrophil cytoplasmic antigens to create a treated sample;

contacting the treated sample with polyvalent antibodies to human immunoglobulin such that the enzyme-linked polyvalent antibodies are allowed to bind to capture anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies creating an enzyme-linked antibody bound sample;

adding an enzyme substrate to the enzyme-linked antibody bound sample to create a readable sample; and

determining an optical density of the readable sample at 450 nm..

21-29. (Canceled).

30. (New) A method for testing fecal samples from persons for diagnosis, the method comprising:

obtaining a fecal sample from a person presenting with symptoms common to inflammatory bowel disease and irritable bowel syndrome;

diluting the sample;

contacting the diluted sample with immobilized polyclonal antibodies to endogenous lactoferrin to create a treated sample;

contacting said treated sample with enzyme-linked polyclonal antibodies such that the enzyme-linked polyclonal antibodies are allowed to bind to captured endogenous lactoferrin creating an enzyme-linked antibody bound sample;

adding a substrate to the enzyme-linked antibody bound sample to create a readable sample;

determining the optical density of said readable sample at 450 nm;

determining that the sample contains an elevated level of lactoferrin;

measuring the sample for an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies (ASCA);

measuring the sample for an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA);

upon determining that the sample contains an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies and not an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies, diagnosing the person with Crohn's disease; and

upon determining that the sample contains an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies and not an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies, diagnosing the person with ulcerative colitis.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising:

contacting the sample with antigens of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* to create a treated sample;

contacting the treated sample with polyvalent antibodies to human immunoglobulin conjugated to an enzyme such that the polyvalent antibodies are allowed to bind to capture anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies creating an enzyme-linked antibody bound sample;

adding a substrate to the enzyme-linked antibody bound sample to create a readable sample; and

determining the optical density of the readable sample.

32. (New) A method for testing fecal samples from persons for diagnosis, the method comprising:

obtaining a fecal sample from a person presenting with symptoms common to inflammatory bowel disease and irritable bowel syndrome;

diluting the sample;

contacting the sample with neutrophil cytoplasmic antigens to create a treated sample;

contacting the treated sample with polyvalent antibodies to human immunoglobulin such that the enzyme-linked polyvalent antibodies are allowed to bind to capture anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies creating an enzyme-linked antibody bound sample;

adding an enzyme substrate to the enzyme-linked antibody bound sample to create a readable sample;

determining an optical density of the readable sample at 450 nm;

determining that the sample contains an elevated level of lactoferrin;

measuring the sample for an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies (ASCA);

measuring the sample for an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA);

upon determining that the sample contains an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies and not an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies, diagnosing the person with Crohn's disease; and

upon determining that the sample contains an elevated level of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies and not an elevated level of anti-*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* antibodies, diagnosing the person with ulcerative colitis.